



Portable Propane Container Storage and Use for Food Preparation Areas

The use and storage of propane gas (LPG) for cooking is controlled by the Fire Code, and regulated by the San Jose Fire Department. The amount of propane ("aggregate quantity") that you can have on site (storage or use) in any area is limited. In addition, the storage and use must be in strict compliance with all Codes and Regulations.

Quantity of Propane in any "Area":

1. The maximum amount you can have in one "area" is **100-gallons, or 499-pounds**. For purpose of calculating the quantity, empty containers are considered to be full.
2. A storage/use "area" must be **at least 20-feet away from any other "area."** An individual cooking booth using and/or storing propane is supposed to be 20-feet away from any other booth using propane, or both booths are considered part of the same "area."
3. The Fire Department may approve **additional storage areas**, if the amount is below 100-gallons and the area is at least 20-feet away from other "areas."
4. The Fire Department may approve a **"bulk storage area"** for quantities equal to or greater than 101-pounds, or 500 gallons, for the exchange of empty bottles. These would require greater separation distances and additional security precautions, and would require prior approval by the Fire Department.

Additional Safety Requirements for Propane Storage and Use:

5. Propane cylinders have to be at least 10-feet away from combustibles, weeds, grass, brush, cardboard, or trash.
6. Propane cylinders must be protected from public access by a fixed barrier.
7. Storage areas must be set up to minimize tampering or exposure to high temperatures.
8. Propane cylinders must not be stored immediately next to heat sources.
9. Propane cylinders must all be labeled "Flammable", and "LPG" or "Propane."
10. Propane cylinders must be protected from damage and firmly secured in an upright position on a substantially level surface.
11. Propane cylinders must have a cap or collar to prevent damage from falling/tipping.
12. Propane storage areas can not be near a means of egress. (Each vendor booth must have at least one clear exit pathway, 3' wide by 6'8" high, not obstructed by the booth frame.)
13. **Smoking is prohibited within 15-feet.** "No Smoking" signs shall be posted.
14. **Each cooking both shall have a fire extinguisher**, with a minimum rating of **2A:10BC**. Booths with **deep-fat frying or flambé cooking** shall have a **"K" Type extinguisher.**